

THE CONSTITUTION.

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What Do You Want?

No matter what it is, if you will let it be known through the columns of The Constitution, you will get it. The Constitution is the people's popular want medium. More "want" advertisements are published every week in it than in all the other papers in Georgia combined.

People patronize the paper that brings them returns.

TEN PAGES.

ATLANTA, GA., March 30, 1893.

The "Joke" on Georgia.
 A correspondent of Secretary Smith's newspaper writes from Washington as follows:

Georgians who are seeking office, men who, by reason of fitness and party service are entitled to it, as well as those who are not, are finding out a few things when they come to the national capital. When a Georgian is introduced the first question asked him is, "When will that excursion train be on here with the 2,400 other Georgians?"

The correspondent goes on to say that this was amusing at first, then annoying and finally disgusting, and he describes it as "this silly piece of twaddle started by an envious Atlanta publication."

Now, the correspondent of Secretary Smith's paper ought to do Secretary Smith's paper justice. The attempt to make a joke of the very serious fact that Georgia is entitled to a fair share of the federal patronage did not originate with Secretary Smith's paper. On the contrary, when The Constitution, after examining the records, found that Georgia had been wrongfully deprived by the republicans of the office to which the state is entitled, Secretary Smith's paper denounced this discrimination against Georgia as an outrage that should be promptly remedied, and declared that each state was entitled to its fair share of the federal patronage under the civil service laws.

We say, therefore, that Secretary Smith's paper is not responsible for starting the "silly twaddle" about the excursion train of Georgia office seekers. But it is responsible for countenancing the "silly twaddle," which was invented by some impetuous Washington correspondent. It is responsible for joining in the attempt to make a joke of the fact that Georgia has been discriminated against by the republicans in dividing out the offices.

After endorsing in its editorial columns the position taken by The Constitution, it suddenly pretended to believe that the whole matter was a joke; and, by copying in a conspicuous place in its columns the silly twaddle about Georgians flocking to Washington on excursion trains, it lent aid and comfort to those outside editors who have been belittling Georgia office seekers, and trying to make Georgia and Georgians ridiculous. To cap the climax, its Washington correspondent now declares that the effort to make Georgia ridiculous has annoyed and disgusted sensible men at Washington. The feeling of annoyance and disgust is not confined to Washington, but has spread and is spreading throughout the state.

There was never any reason why Secretary Smith's paper should have lent its aid to make Georgia ridiculous in the matter of office seeking. After endorsing The Constitution's demand that the state should have its equitable share of the federal patronage, there was no reason why it should adopt its columns, under cover of a joke, the diabolical slander that the editor of this journal was engaged in arranging for an excursion train to carry Georgia office seekers to Washington. Such featherless chickens come promptly home to roost.

Fortunately for Georgia, and we may say for the whole south, the demand which The Constitution has made, and which will continue to make, has survived the eruption of stale and offensive jokes that have been showered on this state. It is a proposition that commands itself to serious men, and to all who desire to see their state placed on an equality with other states. It is a proposition that was heartily endorsed by Secretary Smith's evening newspaper and its interior department got out of gear.

The whole matter is very simple. Of two or three hundred places credited

to Georgia in the Blue Book, not one hundred are filled by Georgians, and of the whole number of federal offices that are filled by appointment or under the operation of the civil service laws, Georgia is entitled to 2,487. Is there any reason why the state should not have them? Is there any reason why the democrats should continue in operation the corrupt system of the republicans, whereby the patronage belonging to states largely democratic has been diverted to the close or doubtful states?

Nobody has denied that the states are entitled to an equal share of the federal patronage according to population, and nobody is likely to deny the statement that Georgia has not been enjoying the proportion that is equitably hers. The whole question is here: Shall Georgia have what rightfully belongs to the state in the matter of offices, or shall the corrupt republican system of distributing the federal patronage be endorsed and carried out by the democrats?

A Tariff for Revenue Only.
 The Washington, Ga., Chronicle is of the opinion that the man who is in favor of "a tariff for revenue with incidental protection" is preparing "a loophole to bring back by degrees the whole iniquitous system."

The truth is the system has never been carried away. It is still with us. It is also equally true that the democratic platform provides for sweeping the whole affair away.

When the committee on resolutions brought in a plank recognizing protection, the convention jumped on it with both feet, and substituted a declaration that a protective tariff is unconstitutional and in favor of a tariff for revenue only. The tariff plank on which Mr. Cleveland was elected needs no light shed on it by the doctrinaires. It is its own illuminator, its own interpreter. It denounces protection as robbery of the people.

Individual democrats may differ in their views, as to the amount of protection necessary to give American industries an advantage over those of Europe, but, when the party comes to carry out the pledges of the platform, there will be no question of protection. A tariff for revenue only is the kind of tariff that Great Britain has, and there is no protection in it.

The republican who thinks he can get incidental protection out of a tariff for revenue only is welcome to all he gets.

Mr. Cleveland and Democratic Policy.
 Mr. Cleveland is demonstrating every day that he has much clearer conceptions of party policy than those who have been inferentially urging him to use his power and influence to reward those who were in favor of his nomination and to punish those who opposed his nomination, but who supported him with the utmost enthusiasm after he was made the party's candidate.

It is, indeed, a fact full of significance that the president has given those about him to understand that the policy of the party is of more importance than any man's personality. He has his likes and his dislikes, and we presume he has his prejudices, but his course, thus far in his second administration, shows that he has very broad views as to the methods that should be employed in emphasizing the necessity of party harmony, and in extending the party's influence. This is not an easy thing to do and a small man would inevitably succumb to the promptings of human nature.

We have already referred to the fact that Mr. Cleveland has given emphatic recognition to the character and services of some of the distinguished men who opposed his nomination on grounds of expediency. He has placed Mr. Carlisle at the head of the treasury, he has sent Mr. Eustis to France, and he has recognized the friends of Mr. Voorhees in Indiana. He is credited with saying that he has never had any idea of ignoring Irish and his faction in South Carolina; that he regards them as democrats, and they will be so treated in the distribution of patronage.

We learn from our Washington correspondent that Mr. Cleveland thinks some of the men who followed Kolb should be considered in the appointments. He is of the opinion that conciliatory measures toward those people are necessary to harmonize the factions and bring the state back into its old condition. The majority of the congressmen from Alabama, according to our correspondent, do not agree with Mr. Cleveland in this. They do not look upon the Kolbites as a dangerous element.

But Mr. Cleveland is right. The men who voted for Kolb and with Kolb, and who came within one of defeating the republican organization, are democrats, and although they supported Kolb for governor, the majority of them voted for Mr. Cleveland.

We refer to these matters, however, not for the purpose of discussing Alabama politics, but in order to show how clear Mr. Cleveland's conceptions of democratic policy are. It is a development significant enough to note at this time.

Virehow on the Cholera.

Professor Virehow, one of the ablest scientists in Europe, believes that there will be another epidemic of cholera in the older countries this spring and summer, but he expresses the opinion that the United States will escape with only a few scattering cases.

In this country, our cities are comparatively new, the drainage is good, and the water supply is excellent. With these advantages on our side, it is easy enough to fight the cholera, and the professor says that only the grossest negligence will cause it to prevail as an epidemic.

In Europe, where the cities and towns are many centuries old, a poisoned soil and a polluted water supply are favorable to the development of cholera and other diseases. We are almost entirely free from such dangerous conditions, and, with reasonable sanitary work, we need not be apprehensive of a visitation of the Asiatic plague. We are aware that many American physicians take a different view, but the experience of the past few years has shown that clean people and clean cities did it comparatively easy to check the spread of cholera, and stamp it out. A general clearing up has been

going on in our large cities for some time, and a little extra work in the same line this spring will probably assure our safety. If the cholera comes, it is not likely that its victims will outnumber those of the grip, pneumonia or typhoid fever.

The Bond Election.
 The people of Fulton county are very generally in favor of the proposed issue of \$600,000 in bonds for the purpose of building a new jail, a courthouse and a reformatory.

It is gratifying to note the trend of public sentiment in this matter, but the only way to make it count for anything is to shape it into votes on the 13th of April, when the people will be called upon to decide the matter. We cannot get along even another year or two with our cramped little courthouse and our utter failure of a jail, and humanity and our Christian duty demand a reformatory for the children who drift into evil ways.

Six hundred thousand dollars is a very small sum for this rich county to expend for these imperatively needed public improvements. It is such a small sum that it will never be felt by our taxpayers. In a few years, our population will be doubled, and our rapidly increasing wealth will make it unnecessary to raise the tax rate on account of these bonds.

We cannot afford to postpone this matter. In the interests of economy and public business, we should issue the bonds and begin work at once on the buildings, which are so urgently needed.

The Reorganization of the Central.
 As published on yesterday, a bill has been filed in the Georgia state court by the Central Trust Company of New York, seeking to separate the Savannah and Western railroad lines from the Central railroad system, and asking for an independent receiver to be appointed for the Savannah and Western railroad. The parties directly interested in this movement disagree as to its purpose, but whatever the intent of this new phase of the litigation may be, it cannot fail to result disastrously to the parties who are most interested in the situation. A reorganization of the Central system under favorable circumstances has been attempted, and bids fair to reach a successful culmination. Whether the new action is merely a strategic movement of counsel to effect control of the litigation, or whether it is based upon a desire to embarrass the attempt at reorganization, is immaterial to the stockholders and creditors who will be affected by its operation.

The advocates of the reorganization plan contend that the only way to dispose fairly of the properties, aggregating \$40,000,000 in value, is by a combination of interests among those holding claims against the property so as to credit such interests on the purchase price, and, if this is made impossible, the chances are that the senior lienholders could buy in this magnificent property at a song.

It has not been intimated that the property is not being conservatively and ably managed in the hands of the court by Receiver Comer. The interests of the vast number of stockholders and creditors demand that no experiments be made, and that nothing should be done which might tend to weaken their present precarious situation.

Basket Shop Gambling.
 The Nashville Banner declares that the financial trouble in that city during the past few days was all due to gambling in futures. It goes on to say: "The basket shops are cancerous spots in our commercial system and their poison does more to undermine and destroy business integrity than any other evil that can be named. When a young man is detected in embezzling his employer's funds, you can, in nine cases out of ten, find him at the head of a basket shop. When a business partner in a firm wrecks the firm and brings ruin upon his house, the chances are ten to one that his fall was brought about by the influence of the gambling habit known as basket shop. Does a bank officer go wrong and ruin a bank? Go to the basket shop and you will find that he gambled in futures."

The basket shop is a curse to any community. Name a town where one of these gambling institutions has been established and we will point you to wrecked fortunes and ruined reputations and lives in the cities and towns where they are found. The basket shop is a young man and many a business man of high standing can trace his fall to these schools. There are business men who have credit and standing in Nashville who will not be seen in a basket shop, but there are private offices in connection with the basket shops into which these men go and telephone their bets. Thus the future of the business is made more secret and insidious in its ruinous work.

Our contemporary thinks that it would be a blessing if the basket-shop business were prohibited by law as a dangerous form of gambling.

Sooner or later, this business will be outlawed in every state, as it is in Georgia. Its fascination makes it perilous. Men entrusted with the funds of others are frequently among its victims, and business men sometimes yield to its temptations, and the result is occasionally just such a flurry in financial circles as Nashville had the other day. The general prosperity of a community is of too much importance to be jeopardized in this way. If ordinary gambling is prohibited, and if lotteries are unlawful, what possible excuse can be urged for permitting basket-shop gambling?

Corrupt City Politics.
 The Rev. Dr. McFerrin, in a recent lecture on city government, delivered in Chattanooga, said:

Our cities have for the most part fallen into the hands of the rabble and are controlled by the elements that would disgrace pauperism. Many of the cities are in the hands of the lowest places that curse society—places which good men can never think of entering. These nominations are made for aldermen or councilmen. The candidates are sure of election, and when elected must in some way reward those who have worked so hard and spent their money and their lives in the support of the police, which means that they are appointed as I have mentioned are guided by bribery and corruption. The candidates are sure of election, and when elected must in some way reward those who have worked so hard and spent their money and their lives in the support of the police, which means that they are appointed as I have mentioned are guided by bribery and corruption.

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virtuous men would turn away from it as from a plague. The Chattanooga Times pronounces this "no fancy picture, but the naked truth."

Undoubtedly, Dr. McFerrin has correctly described some of the evil phases of corrupt municipal government, and it would be easy to name the cities to which his remarks are directly applicable.

But it is not necessary to name the cities. The corrupt municipal government is a general evil, and it is the duty of every citizen to denounce it and drag its victims to the front. Atlanta has solved the problem of municipal government so satisfactorily that we can heartily recommend her methods to our sister cities. We make our city government a matter of business. We draw no party lines and ignore politics. Good citizens are persuaded to take an interest in their local affairs, and their primaries take the shape of big mass meetings, which are virtually the same as an election. Under this system, there is no place for ring or gang rule.

It is in the power of the good citizens of every community to secure good government, if they will come to the front and act untidily and harmoniously. Their moral influence and their numbers make them a tremendous factor in municipal affairs, and the corrupt politicians will get out of their way when they see that they are in earnest.

When a city is badly governed, it is because its good citizens stay in the background and passively submit.

Baseball seems to compete with the bluebird as a harbinger of spring.

The Reorganization of the Central.
 There is a tremendous groaning of cogs in the clockwork of Georgia politics. The interior department of Secretary Smith's newspaper is moved to announce that it has no intention of unquitting.

Perhaps the Reform Club has Mr. Schurz concealed under the bed.

Editor Morse, of Indiana, got an office without asking for it. Editor Morse deserves to be congratulated by those who asked for none and got none.

Mr. Cleveland is still for a primary for the Atlanta postmaster, and the senators and the people favor it. This "it" however, gives Secretary Smith's paper an opportunity to remain on the spot where it squatted last. It is so glad of this that it devotes a slugged editorial article to the great question of squating and unquitting.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.
 A strange scene was enacted in the Texas house of representatives the other day. The chaplain's prayer had offended some of the members, and one of them introduced a resolution to be read by the chaplain. The prayer which read, "O God, open the eyes of those who have allowed the love of money to be balanced against virtue; that they may see the light of truth above rubles, and that in their hands is placed the power to save those against whom the false standard of society has closed the churches and all avenues of mercy are closed." The prayer was read, and it was claimed that the prayer was a reflection upon the character of the members, and an attempt to return to them in regard to a proposed measure. The house very sensibly rejected it as depriving the chaplain of liberty in his prayer. The prayer was beyond the reach of the legislature, and its propriety in the hands of a higher power, and that to expunge it would not contradict it.

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JUST FROM GEORGIA.

(The Constitution has accepted the resignation of Mr. Frank L. Stanton who has been a member of the editorial staff of this paper. —Editor Constitution.)

Retaliation.
 The editor told the farmer: "Don't make your old mistake. And plant your land with cotton as the only crop you make. You'll overdo the business and bring the prices down. And then next fall come cussin' all through this plow town!"

Diversity your planting—make raises, corn and oats.
 Get hogs of fancy breeding and raise some chancy shoats; Have chickens, ducks and guineas about your pen to roam. And thus be independent by living all at home!"

The farmer eyed the scribbler with glare as cold as ice.
 And said: "I've often tried to give you some advice. Why don't you run your paper with all the latest news? We folks out in the country don't want your silly 'views'."

"Give up the patent inside, throw out the blue-plate."
 And dash up county dongs directly up to date; Quit tryin' to teach us farmers the way to till our loam. But buckle down to business and print your sheet at home!" —SAM W. SMALL.

The editor of The Vienna Progress warns Mrs. Lease that, since her recent article in "Lease's Weekly," any number of questions about her conduct have been laid up in Georgia to await her second coming.

The Albany papers are full of booms for the chautauque and it promises to be one of the most successful of any yet held.

The Monroe Advertiser's feature of local editorials is one of the best specialties that appear in the Georgia press. They are sensible, timely and stimulative to local pride and enterprise.

The Augusta News remarks that "Sam Small prints a perfect gem of poetry in Sunday's Constitution."

The Georgia editor is irrepressible. For instance, when Editor Walker failed to make the Taylor County Populist flourish he promptly turned the shaft over to the sheriff and got himself a job at teaming in the cross-tie business.

The American Times-Recorder jubilantly answers an inquiry as to "when will Georgia's exhibit go forward?" to the world's fair, by replying: "Just as soon as Atlanta leads off on the crinoline case. She always leads. A number of ultra fashionable ladies appeared at the opening of the fair, and they were all dressed in crinolines. The Philadelphia commission said: 'Every man to his tent, O, Israel!'"

The Walton News keeps about as steady a gait in reporting local news as any paper in the state. Its columns are always laden with the choicest intelligence of the county.

The Macon Evening News has this suggestive comment upon the results of recent pilgrimages by Georgians:

"Mr. J. H. Smith, who is told, but the names of many of the aspiring Georgians who have recently flocked to Washington seem to be forgotten."

Editor Stovall's sentiment about "preferring to be a fiddler at Tybee than the player of a mandolin at the millennium" has gone the rounds of the national press. It was an expression slick enough to roll around for a long time.

The Lithonia News Era is a typical newspaper from one of the liveliest towns in Georgia. It has the granite of solid opinions and the veracity of a happy and prosperous people.

While the Augusta Herald does not march with as close columns as some other daily papers, yet its parallel boom like parked wheels with solid sense and wide-flying news items.

One of the Georgia editors, who kept flying all through the campaign the legend "Public office is a public trust," now finds that the administration hesitates to trust him with the office he applied for.

The editor of The Vienna Progress is evidently in a bad way from this confession:

"If there is any one thing that a Georgia editor should be careful to avoid, it is to write a long article. Last week we got ours out preparatory for the spring and summer. We gave it a shake to see if it was right, and it was. It was a long one—no all our hopes are blighted—no world's fair, no Cumberland, no nothing!"

Way up amid the glorious hills of Habersham the infallible signs of spring are flaming for the Asheville Advertiser says:

"The pink fashions of white plumes have begun to peep from under its tent of green leaves. The arbutus is the first wild flower to open in the spring, and it always has come as a token of better days to come."

The Georgia press excursion to the Columbian exposition will be no commonplace affair. From the way the boys are rustling after the delinquent, the boys are hunting for the post for the post. This should be good news to his friends in this city.

The Griffin Call says that now, "in the days of his agony" Lewis Redwine has discovered "exactly what the friendship of the dukes and butterflies with whom he circulated in Atlanta was worth."

Judge John I. Hall, it is stated reliably, has been tendered the position of a selector to the attorney general of the United States, if he accepts the position he will fill it with signal ability.

Savannah politicians were not well pleased with the appointment of Major Gary. They wanted Callaway, who was Congressman and a choice, as well as Senator Gordon's preference.

Governor Northing, according to a report in The Augusta News, "would prefer spending the remainder of his life in preaching the gospel of Christ rather than in political warfare."

The Augusta Herald seems to fear that Colonel B. M. Blackburn has been lost in the madding throng in Washington. No so; he will come out at the winning post.

Rev. Lewis Williams, a venerable patriarch among the negro population, with his wife, celebrated their golden wedding on Tuesday, the 28th, at Washington, Ga.

Editor Cooper, of The Rome Tribune, in his generous way, has taken up the cudgels in defense of ex-State Geologist Spencer. But that matter is spent, sir.

The Gainesville Eagle suggests Hon. H. H. Perry, of that city, as a suitable man for the position of judge of the Northeastern circuit at the next election.

Hon. Flen duBouillon says that "anybody who thinks President Cleveland is going to retain republicans in office will soon realize his error."

The Macon News calls Major Gary "the Hotspur of Edgewood," and Frank Leverett "the fiery fly of Putnam."

The Brunswick Advertiser thinks that "every Georgian who can get an office is entitled to it."

Senator Colquhoun is improving in health, even under the excitement of the office-mechanic in Washington.

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